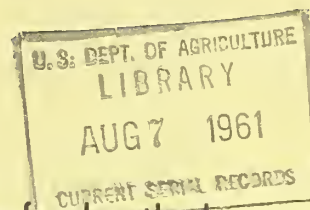


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FOOD PRESERVE



A summary of the food outlook especially designed to give maximum advance information to food editors to help them plan food features.

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Agricultural Marketing Service

July 17, 1961
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MEAT.....Over the next few months, supplies for civilian consumption will be close to or possibly a little larger than a year ago.

Beef.....The output of better grade beef will continue to increase in the months ahead. For 1961, however, per person consumption probably will average about the same as in 1960.

Pork.....Larger marketings of pork are in prospect during the next 12 months. But, although the spring pig crop was up 7 percent over last year, it is still the second smallest in 8 years. Per person consumption for 1961 is expected to be down 1 to 2 pounds.

Lamb.....There has been an unusually large lamb slaughter so far this year--an increase of 25 percent in the Western region, 23 percent in the West North Central States. This, plus sales of old crop lambs (which apparently have continued in large numbers), is keeping supplies of lamb well above year-earlier levels.

POULTRY:

Broiler...Broiler supplies, which have been running 20 percent above a year earlier, will continue to be ample.

Turkeys....In the first half of 1961 turkey supplies were 50 percent larger than a year ago, and turkey supplies will remain abundant throughout the rest of 1961. For the year as a whole, about 25 percent more birds will go to market than in 1960.

Eggs.....While decreasing seasonally, egg production is not going down as fast as last year and by mid-August may be up to year-ago levels. For the first six months of 1961, production was 2.5 percent lower than last year, but by mid-summer monthly production will likely be abreast of 1960 and thereafter it will exceed last year's output.

DAIRY.....Milk production, which up to now has run 1 percent ahead of this time last year, is expected to increase even more in the months ahead. Barring drought, favorable milk-feed price relationships probably will result in a 1961 output 1 billion pounds or more above the 123 billion pounds of 1960.

VEGETABLES:

Fresh.....Production of summer vegetables, not including melons, is expected to be moderately below last year but more than average. Except for cabbage and snap beans, each of the major vegetables will show a decreased output. Substantially smaller crops are forecast for lettuce, cauliflower, cucumbers, and early summer onions. Early summer tomato production is expected to be moderately smaller, and summer celery, sweet corn and carrots slightly less. Summer watermelon production will be off 11 percent from last year. Supplies of mid-summer cantaloups, mostly from California where the crop is record-large, however, will run 7 percent above 1960.

Potatoes... Estimates are for the 1961 late summer crop of potatoes to run close to 35,000,000 hundredweight--1 percent above the revised 1960 estimate and 4 percent above average. Sweetpotato production is down again this year. Estimates place the 1961 output at 14.7 million hundredweight--6 percent below last year, 22 percent below average, and the smallest yearly production since 1881.

Processed.. Planted acreages for the 9 major vegetable crops (which account for 94 percent of total processed) is up 10 percent this year but 2 percent less than average. A 7 percent decrease in the acreage of winter and spring spinach is more than offset by increases in other crops. These are: green lima beans, 13 percent; snap beans, 10; beets, 8; contract cabbage for kraut, 5; sweet corn, 7; cucumbers for pickles, 8; green peas, 15; and tomatoes, 10. First forecasts for production indicate a greater tonnage of snap beans and peas, but a smaller spinach crop. July 1 holdings of frozen vegetables totaled 771 million pounds, up 37 percent from a year ago.

FRUIT:

Peaches.... The peach crop is forecast at 75.7 million bushels (2 percent above the large crop of 1960). Of this, 49-1/2 million bushels will be California Clingstones for processing.

Pears..... The 1961 pear crop is now estimated at nearly 26 million bushels. This is up slightly from last month's estimate and last year's crop but 11 percent below average. The 3 Pacific Coast States will supply 23 million bushels. Production of Bartletts, the principal summer variety, used both for fresh shipments and for canning, is about the same as last year but below average. Production of fall and winter varieties in these States will be up slightly from last year, but still below average.

Apples.... This year's apple crop, which is just now coming on the market, promises to be well above last year's harvest (13 percent more) and the 1950-59 average (10 percent more). The 1961 commercial apple crop is now indicated close to 123 million bushels. Most of the increase is in the Eastern States, although Michigan and California also have large crops in prospect. Production in Washington and Oregon is down slightly from last year and from average.

Grapes.... The first estimate of the 1961 grape harvest indicates a crop of 3.1 million tons. If this size crop materializes, it would be 4 percent larger than last year and 6 percent above average. Increased production is due mainly to European type grapes grown exclusively in California and Arizona. The increase in California is entirely in raisin variety grapes, as production of both table and wine varieties is indicated to be down.

Plums..... Both California and Michigan expect plum crops larger than last year. The forecast for the two States is 97,500 tons.

Apricots... Total crop is estimated at 203,100 tons--16 percent below 1960, but 2 percent above average.

Processed.. Frozen fruit holdings on July 1 stood at 362 million pounds. Frozen orange juice stocks were at an all-time high on July 1, with a total of 51 million gallons on hand.

The Plentiful Foods Program

The Agricultural Marketing Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, through its Plentiful Foods Program, is cooperating in these food campaigns:

July Is Picnic Month	August Sandwich Month
Summer Turkey Time	through August
Scallop Festival	August 11 - 13
11th Annual Better Breakfast Month	September